

the bill I have cosponsored have suggested that it would be better for Congress to pass no legislation rather than to enact this bill in its current form.

I understand their frustration, because I recognize that transgender people face particularly pervasive and severe bias in the workplace and society as a whole and have little protection against employment discrimination under existing State laws, municipal ordinances, or private employment policies.

But although I share their disappointment about the bill's shortcomings, I will support it because I am convinced that H.R. 3685 will improve protections for many thousands of people who might otherwise continue to face unjust discrimination.

Madam Chairman, history shows that legal progress against injustice does not come easily or swiftly.

For example, when Congress and the ratifying States approved the Constitution's 15th Amendment to try to assure the right to vote would not be denied on the basis of race, women were not included—and, although in 1893 Colorado's male voters amended our constitution to include women, other States excluded them until a further amendment took effect. Similarly, since then until the Civil Rights Acts of 1957 and 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and subsequent amendments, it has required repeated legislative enactments to construct the structure of legal protections in place today.

Erecting that structure of protection took longer than it should have, but it would have taken longer still if Members of Congress had refused to vote for good measures because they were not good enough.

And while I would have wished it otherwise, I think that is the choice before the House today.

We can vote to further the spirit and intent of the 1964 Civil Rights Act—which protects against discrimination against employees or job applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin—by expanding it to similarly bar discrimination based on sexual orientation. Or we can refuse to take that step because it is not the entire journey we want to complete.

I want to take that step, although I know it is not the only one needed. So I will vote for this bill.

#### IN PRAISE OF FREDRICK A. MILLS

##### HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 8, 2007*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fredrick A. Mills upon his receiving of the 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award. It is with great admiration I congratulate Frederick Mills on behalf of all those who have benefited from his hard work and dedication.

In 1963, Fred and his wife Venetia, moved to Chelsea when he took a math and coaching position with the Chelsea School District. After 3 years, Mr. Mills took the position of Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations with the Chelsea School District, which he held for 29 years, before retiring in 1995. Since then, Mr. Mills has worked for Chelsea Lumber Company in contractor sales.

For the last 49 years Fred Mills has given his life to the Chelsea community and education. Mr. Mills has been a member of the Chelsea Community Hospital board of trustees, Chelsea State Bank board of directors, Chelsea Village Economic Development Committee, Chelsea Industrial Development Committee, Chelsea Recreation Planning Committee and the Chelsea City Charter Commission. In addition, he has served on the Washtenaw/Livingston and Wayne County School Business Officials Board, Michigan School Business Officials Board, and the Association of Assistant Superintendents and Business Officials of Livingston, Monroe, and Washtenaw Counties. Mr. Mills is an active member at the First United Methodist Church, a charter member of the Chelsea Lions, and was a member of the Chelsea Jaycees. His presence is felt throughout the Chelsea community and across the State.

Fred Mills has seen Chelsea grow from a small rural community to a thriving city, helping along the way to make sure the qualities that make Chelsea a special place to live and raise a family are preserved. Mr. Mills is a true asset to the community as a whole and his contributions over the years will continue to be felt for years to come.

I thank Mr. Mills for his continued support of the Chelsea community. May others know of my high regard for his selfless contributions and service to others, as well as my best wishes for him in the future.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF ROBERT MILLER CRESWELL

##### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 8, 2007*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, Wilcox County and indeed the entire State of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory. Mr. Robert Miller Creswell, known to his many friends as "Mr. Bob," was a devoted family man and a dear friend to his community.

Born and raised in Worcester, Massachusetts, Mr. Bob graduated from Massachusetts State College in Amherst, now known as the University of Massachusetts. He was inducted into the U.S. Army on February 11, 1941. Mr. Bob served with distinction as a combat trooper during World War II, dropping into the battlefields of the Netherlands under hostile Nazi fire.

While stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia, Mr. Bob met Grace Morgan, a teacher in Columbus, Georgia. The two married in 1954 and had four children: Barbara, John, Phil and Tom.

Following his service in the U.S. Army, Mr. Bob served in the U.S. Army Reserve until retiring in 1977 as a lieutenant colonel. In 1964, he became reservoir ranger at Lake Allatoona, Georgia. Mr. Bob and Grace brought their family to Camden, Alabama in 1969, when he was promoted to reservoir manager for the Alabama River Lakes.

Hollis Curl, publisher of the Wilcox Progressive Era and personal friend of Mr. Bob, wrote, "I don't know just what Mr. Bob saw as his major achievement, but I believe it is safe

to say that he looked with extreme pride on the family he and his wife, Grace, raised together." Hollis went on to write, "Mr. Bob's tenure as the man in charge of the Corps of Engineers Alabama River Lakes was impressive. Unlike many in similar positions, Mr. Bob was a friend to the community and to the people he served. He knew the role of the Corps and he was a master at abiding by the rules while at the same time helping citizens conform to regulations they might not have understood."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Throughout his life, Mr. Bob Creswell set a standard of excellence second to none. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Grace, and his daughter, Barbara. He will be deeply missed by his family—his sons, Philip M. Creswell, John R. Creswell, and Thomas L. Creswell; two grandchildren, Joshua Morgan Creswell and Laura Grace Creswell; four step-grandchildren, Clayton R. Tartt, T. Hester Tartt, Jennifer R. Goggans, and N. Anne Goggans—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

#### TRIBUTE TO HELEN IRENE MORS

##### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 8, 2007*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Helen Irene Mors on the recent celebration of her 100th birthday on November 3, 2007.

Irene was born on November 3, 1907 in Thornton, IA, to Frank and Alberta Arnold. She is one of four brothers and three sisters. In 1928 she married John C. Mors in the world famous Little Brown Church in the vale in Nashua, IA. They happily lived together and had two sons. She was a proud homemaker for her family and loved to sketch and paint during her free time. Irene still lives in her own home in rural Iowa.

There have been many changes that have occurred during the past 100 years. Since Irene's birth we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television and the Internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and the birth of new democracies. Irene has lived through 18 U.S. presidents and 24 governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

I congratulate Helen Irene Mors on reaching the milestone of her 100th birthday. I am extremely honored to represent Irene in Congress, and I wish her happiness and health for many years to come.